



Internet Watch Foundation

BOARD MEETING

10.00am- Tuesday 14 June 2016

**Microsoft Office
2 Kingdom Street
Paddington
London
W2 6BD**

MINUTES

- Present:** Sir Richard Tilt (RT) (Chair)
Brian Webb (BW) (Industry Vice-Chair)
Sue Pillar (SP)
Philip Geering (PG)
Jonathan Drori (JD)
Jonathan Lea (JL)
Helen Dent (HD)
Becky Foreman (BF)
Uta Kohl (UTA)
Katie O'Donovan (KOD)
- Apologies:** Peter Neyroud (PN) (Vice Chair)
Paul Cording (PC) (FC Chair)
- IWF Staff:** Susie Hargreaves (SH) (CEO)
Fred Langford (FL) (Deputy CEO)
Heidi Kempster (HK) (Director of Business Affairs - DBA)
Kristof Claesen (KC) (Director of Policy and Public Affairs – DPPA)
Sandrine Harvey (SJH) (Minutes)

IWF Board Closed session

There was a closed session of the IWF Board from 10.00am to 10.10am.

1. a) Welcome and Apologies

The meeting began at 10.15am.

The Chair welcomed Kristof Claesen recently promoted Director of Policy and Public Affairs.

There were apologies from Peter Neyroud and Paul Cording.

b) Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2. Draft minutes 15 March 2016

The minutes were approved.

3. Actions arising

The Board noted the actions.

Action 7. Chair's report – 15.03.16: The Chair mentioned that Lynne Owens accepted the invitation to speak at the Board away day's dinner in July.

Action 16. AOB a. 15.03.16: The Chair asked the CEO to update the Board about a company (not in membership) IWF had written to regarding their hosting of child sexual abuse imagery. The CEO updated the Board and informed them that no response had been received following the IWF's letter. The Board asked FL to present a SWOT analysis of publicising the issues with the company concerned.

Action: FL to present a SWOT analysis.

The Board also **agreed** that the minutes from the Board meetings can be shared with the Ethics committee as soon as the Chair has approved the draft, on the basis that they are subject to Board approval.

4. FC communique

1. Membership model

The Chair informed the Board that the membership issue with a company in membership had been resolved. The Board **agreed** that to prevent similar issues happening again, a letter of intent based on the model should be created. The DBA will create a letter of intent based on the model letter and present it to the Board at the next meeting.

Action: HK to create a letter of intent and present it at the next Board meeting.

2. Code of practice review

In its communique, the FC asked the Board for an opinion on how to tackle the FC constitution which does not reflect the current membership's scope of operation and only takes into consideration UK operators based in the UK. In addition to raising concerns about the code applying to international companies they asked for clarification about eligibility of individual FC members to stand as Board members.

Due to the complexity of the issue, the Chair expressed his intention to seek legal advice rather than creating a working group at this stage. A Board member underlined that the risks of being challenged by a Member about the voting rights are small, but the consequences could be important.

The Chair acknowledged that the risk needed to be addressed and agreed that he and the CEO would meet our legal adviser to discuss the matter.

Action: SH/RT to meet with a third party to discuss the issue.

3. CAIC self-certification

The Board **accepted** that self-certification is no longer a requirement, but should be undertaken on a voluntary basis without an IWF executive requirement to send quarterly reminder emails.

5. Ethics committee report

On behalf of the Chair of the Ethics committee, the CEO reported that:

- The committee was very positive and supportive about the new suggestion for the harm reduction campaign working with the four North West Premier League Football clubs on a 5-point plan to promote responsible sexual behavior.
- The deadline for the applicants for the Research/Evaluation Award programme is 15 June 2016.

6. Chair's report

The Chair informed the Board that he and the CEO still met on a regular basis. He also mentioned to the Board that he met with all the analysts, who all seemed to be enthusiastic about the work they were doing and very resilient. The DBA also stated that the welfare policy had been reviewed following the pressure of the CAID project.

The Chair also met with the Chair of the FC and Mark Hedley, IWF Independent Inspector. Both will attend the Board away day on 11/12 July 2016.

The Chair has attended or will attend the following events:

- 21 April 2016: Annual Report launch in London, which was well attended.
- 25 April 2016: Annual Report launch in Brussels, which was not particularly well attended, but the dinner afterwards was well received.
- 10-13 May 2016: INHOPE AGM in Copenhagen; the Chair was elected to the Board of INHOPE and has joined a Board of new members with a Chair – new elected President Arda Gerkens, Director of Meldpunt, the NL hotline.
- 02 June: Members' Chair lunches; The Chair held his first lunch with the Members. The lunch gives an opportunity for the Members to meet with the Chair as well as other Members and the feedback so far has been very positive. The next lunch will take place on 24 June.
- 08-09 June 2016: Eurodig conference in Brussels. The Chair noted that the level of criticism that the IWF once received at Eurodig has diminished with many people speaking out in support of our work.
- Conference organized by Leverhulme Foundation at Bristol University;
- 23 June 2016: Middlesex University conference.

The Chair briefly mentioned the report on filtering, blocking and take-down of illegal content on the internet from the Council of Europe and asked the DPPA to explain the situation with the consultation. The DPPA mentioned that some criticisms were levied against self-regulation, but also positive references to the IWF work. The report presented might be a basis to prepare a code of conduct for ISPs. The DPPA is trying to get involved in the preparation of the document and will monitor the progress made.

7. CEO report

2. Strategic developments

2.2 Obscene Adult Content (OAC)

The CEO informed the Board that she had met with the new Director of the BBFC, David Austin, who is keen for BBFC to take over responsibility for OAC, but some funding will be needed. The BBFC had meetings with various members of the government and HO to talk about the BBFC integrating OAC within its remit, but the situation is still at a standstill. The

Board **agreed** that the way forward is to write a letter to Secretary of State, John Whittingdale – DCMS - explaining the cost and reasons for the IWF passing this matter to the BBFC. The Chair will write a letter to DCMS and keep the Board updated once a response has been received

Action: RT to write a letter to DCMS to inform them of the intention of passing the issue of OAC to BBFC at the end of the financial year 2016/17 and inform BBFC.

Action: SH to get back to the Board when a response from the DCMS has been received.

2.4 BBC MoU

The CEO thanked JD for his help with the MoU with BBC. The MoU will allow both parties to share information more closely.

3. International report

3.2 IWF Portals

The IWF will have 17 Portals operational by the end of 2016 – 13 in the UKOTs, and India will go live with a soft launch in June. Namibia will go live after the summer. The CEO informed the Board that the IWF was not seeking to implement any other new Portals as the focus for the rest of the year will be to support the existing Portals and ensure they are operating effectively.

The feedback from the Foreign Office (FCO) who funded the UKOT Portals has been extremely positive and they have indicated that they would like to extend the programme in future.

A Board member mentioned that it was also good to take time to evaluate the Portal programme to date to help with any future requests.

3.2.1 India

The CEO updated the Board on the second visit to India carried out by the DCEO, who met with a number of key industry members and the Indian government to explain the working of the IWF and the technical side of our work. The CEO also indicated that there were some tensions between the IWF and WeProtect programmes as they both offered different solutions and competed with each other.

A Board member took the opportunity to point out that concentrating only on CSAM was very important point for the globalisation process as the IWF does not want to have to deal with OAC, which could result in a lot of conflicts with the law in the countries where the Portals have been established.

3.2.4 Spain

The DCEO and DPPA went to Spain to meet with Telefonica and they also met with the Spanish Hotline Alias2, the only hotline left during their visit to Spain. Alias2 showed some interest in visiting the IWF.

After a very brief discussion about the Spanish hotline, the Chair suggested we defer the discussion to the Board away day as we would be relooking at our international strategy and delivery.

Action: The Board to discuss how the IWF could help hotlines, which are in a difficult position at the Board away day.

8. Communications report

The CEO informed the Board that the Director of External Relations (DER) will be back from her maternity leave end of July working three days per week until October and then, full-time from October. The Communications Manager temporarily covering some of the DER's responsibilities will leave end of July. A Board member suggested to invite the Communications Manager to the Board away dinner as a "thank you" for all her work.

Action: SH to invite LS to the Board away dinner.

The Board noted the positive press coverage in April due to the Annual Report launch. The CEO commended the work of the interim Communications Manager, who had done an extraordinary work during her time with the IWF.

Action: CEO to pass on Board thanks to Lisa Stacey

3. 20th anniversary

The CEO thanked BW for all his help in organising the 20th anniversary at the BT Tower which will take place on 13 October 2016.

The Communications Manager has commissioned a short film to commemorate 20 years of the IWF. The CEO also thanked BF and KOD for their help in making sure that there will be the contribution of Michel van der Bel – Managing Director Microsoft UK and Matt Brittin, CEO EAME Google. Antigone Davis – Head of Global Policy Safety from Facebook, the PM, the Home Secretary and the parents of April Jones will all take part in the film, which will be launched at the BT Tower event.

The CEO mentioned that the IWF had been awarded "European Citizen of the Year" prize and the ceremony will take place on 12 October 2016.

5. Website

There are some delays in the design of the web pages due to some significant issues within the web-design company, but there is hope that the launch takes place beginning/mid-July.

9. Policy and Public Affairs report

3. European Union

3.1 Net Neutrality

The DPPA updated the Board on the Net Neutrality issue and reported that a consultation period until 18 July 2016 had been opened to comment on the draft for the BEREC guidelines. The DPPA will comment in due time. A Board member suggested to contact the OFCOM and check what their position is prior to getting back to the BEREC.

Action: KC to contact the OFCOM and reply to the Net Neutrality guidelines.

The DPPA also informed the Board that there will be a new push for IWF Champions in the UK as well as in Europe and that the IWF's work had been strongly endorsed at a Europol conference.

10. Technical report

1.1.1. Operational trends

Table 1 - Comparison reporting data 2015 to 2016

The DCEO explained the difference between the table 1 and 2 was the inclusion of duplicates in table 2.

Figure 5 – Top 10 Hosting Websites (CSAM)

There was a discussion about the variation of positions in the hosting countries data and the volume. A Board member asked whether it was possible to add an absolute figure for each country. The DCEO noted and will add the figure in addition to the percentage.

Action: FL to add an absolute figure for each country.

It has also been discussed on how to make sure that countries which are notified are taking the material down. The DCEO explained that one way to make sure that countries take down material when they are notified was to apply some external pressure from high-level organisations.

The CEO mentioned that in the future, the new RMS4 will provide more information about the trend, which could also help other hotlines.

A Board member noticed that there were a peak of newsgroups Takedown Notices during February and March. This culmination was due to some investigations going on and the IWF proactive work with newsgroups.

4. IWF Network and Technology

4.1 IT Network

4.1.3 The DCEO explained that now that the hash grading tools had been fixed, the Hotline was working its way through the backlog of images. The images were encrypted while the grading tools were being fixed. The documentation still needs to be completed. The company providing the tool apologised for the delay caused.

4.2 IWF hash list

Another approximately 300,000 images have been received from the Police to be hashed. To date 100,000 images have been hashed from the previous batch we received.

An event to close the pilot project and launch the service to the Members is being organised for mid-July. A majority large amount of Members have already shown an interest in taking the hash list depending upon internal conversations.

12. IWF/NSPCC project. Requests for removal of indecent images by minors.

The DCEO and the Technical Researcher are working on this project and a draft should be finalised by the end of June. There are major challenges to be overcome before we can proceed including issues related to age verification through to liability issues. A Board member suggested contacting iRights to seek advice.

Action: FL to present a draft of the project at the next Board meeting.

A Board member asked for an update on the relationship with the NCA. The communication between the two entities at operational level is very good.

Action: The Board to discuss how to further improve the communication between the IWF and the NCA at the Board away day dinner.

13. Strategic implications

13.1.2 The issue of hotlines on the verge of collapsing will be discussed at the Board away day.

11. Director of Business Affairs report

The Board noted the paper.

The DBA mentioned that the IWF had now reached a record number of Members thanks to the hard work of the membership team.

Further to a query from a Board member, the DBA explained the reasons for which some companies were leaving.

12. Harm reduction campaign

The CEO thanked JD for his advice with this project. The CEO and the Communications Officer met with Liverpool and Everton football club to present the project on reporting CSA. The clubs showed a lot of interest and challenged the idea to expand it to a wider project about sexual behaviour. The project will also be supported by the UK Safer Internet (UKSIC), which will help on the awareness side.

The CEO pointed that the targeted audience will be the 16 to 24 years old and not 18 to 24 as mentioned in the brief.

Action: Edit the target age from 18 to 24 to 16 to 24.

The objective of the campaign for the IWF is to reach all the audience, football clubs work with, which are:

- Safeguarding committee;
- The fans;
- Staff including players.

The IWF with the help of UKSIC will run a series of workshop in the North West with a Project Manager based in the area.

A Board member offered the CEO to get in touch with a contact at Radio 5.

Action: JD to get SH in touch with Radio 5.

The main challenge in this programme is to engage with the management of the clubs. A Board member pointed that it was essential that whilst there are five key messages delivered on behalf of the UKSIC, it was also important to ensure that the IWF's key message 'Real Men Report It!' was protected in its own right. The Board suggested that we also reach out to other Members, such as Sky and BT and to key parliamentarians including Andy Burnham and Sports Minister Tracey Crouch.

Action: SH to contact Members/MPs.

13. AOB

a) UKSIC Ltd

The CEO queried whether the Board would agree to create a new company “UK Safer Internet Centre Ltd” in order to provide extra protection of the UKSIC brand as the online protection sector is very busy. This would be in partnership with Childnet and SWGfL. The Company would be dormant initially.

The Board **approved** the purchase of UKSIC Ltd.

Action: SH with SWGfL and Childnet to set up a new company, UKSIC Ltd.

b) Age verification

The CEO brought to the attention of the Board the current government consultation on age verification which will require adult sites to put in place age verification procedures. Once they do this, the adult industry is likely to apply for membership of the IWF. The Board agreed that the Executive should undertake a SWOT and risk analysis to be presented to the Board.

Action: SH to undertake a SWOT and risk.

The meeting ended at 12.30pm.